The Class of Medicine 2023  
Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry  
Western University  
London, ON.

On behalf of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, I extend our congratulations on entering the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program in our London and Windsor campuses as the initial stage of your journey to becoming a physician.

We are excited for your class to be part of our MD Program curriculum developed for the modern-day learner, with a primary focus on your career success as a decision maker, team collaborator and leader in patient care for Canada. Learning is staged strategically as a continuum across all four years. Our curriculum features experiential learning, individual clinical and scholarly experiences, small and large group interactive active learning, team based projects, early clinical exposure to patient care, and culminating in the final two years of clinical immersion. You will be an active participant in your learning which is grounded in the principles of being competency-based, socially accountable, culturally safe, compassionate, and knowledgeable in the approaches to common presentations by patients. This curriculum is designed to provide you with the educational skills and abilities of a generalist physician, prepared for the next stage of your learning and for the decades ahead.

Medicine is continually evolving. Progression through the curriculum will be based on demonstrating not your time in the program, but mastery of competencies in a staged model to the level that allows successful transition into residency education. Each learning experience or course provides ample opportunities to demonstrate graded achievement in all the twenty-three (23) key curricular competencies under the seven program roles. These seven physician roles are derived from the CanMEDS framework that is the foundation for all Canadian medical education. The graduation curricular competencies, along with achievement of entrustability for each of the twelve (12) AFMC Entrustable Professional Activities, will be essential for progression. These outcomes along with assessments of knowledge, task completion and professionalism are the means by which the Competence Committee will monitor your progression.

In our MD Program, you are a key member of many teams; you will have ownership and accountability for your learning, and often for your peers and teams. Your academic success will be guided by an assigned faculty coach to ensure your learning plans meet the necessary outcome measures to progress through the curriculum. Our goal for this process, along with early clinical integration in patient care, will be to nurture and advance the skills, knowledge and abilities needed to deliver safe, quality patient care as a generalist physician.
We welcome you as a member of one class and one academic community distributed between two campuses – London and Windsor. In nurturing your developing professional identity, we offer an integrated course designed to focus on personal and professional skills, in collaborative learning with peers and other health professions across our two campuses and Distributed Education network. You will have life-changing learning from and with patients, families, peers, residents, faculty and other health professionals. Extending gratitude for allowing you into their circle of health care shows appreciation for this privilege.

Medical school is more than the acquisition of knowledge, abilities and skills. Successful clinicians and scientists establish personal and professional relationships that influence career satisfaction and success. Developing resiliency through personal wellness and a close network of family and friends translates into success in meeting the challenges of our profession. Our school is proud of the rich tradition in student led learning and participation with clubs and activities. Being involved is important for a sense of belonging. We are committed to supporting your success and all students have access to support through our Learner Equity & Wellness Office and Western University Student Support Services – and we encourage you to take advantage of our highly skilled personnel. Our school faculty and staff are always available to support you. Across the school and affiliated learning sites, our doors are always open to our students. Feel free to reach out. We are here for you. Your success is our goal!

We look forward to formally greeting you and your family at our White Coat Ceremony in August.

Welcome to our MD Program in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry of Western University and to the start of your career as a future physician and leader.

Sincerely,

Gary Tithecott MD FRCP (C) MBA
Associate Dean
Undergraduate Medical Education